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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/647,332	09/27/2000	Yoshihisa Gonno	450106-02305	5400
20999	7590	10/31/2006	EXAMINER	
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG 745 FIFTH AVENUE- 10TH FL. NEW YORK, NY 10151			USTARIS, JOSEPH G	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2623	

DATE MAILED: 10/31/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/647,332

Applicant(s)

GONNO ET AL.

Examiner

Joseph G. Ustaris

Art Unit

2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 09 March 2005 has been entered.

Claims 1-8 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 are amended.

The objection to claim 6 is now withdrawn in view of the amendments.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wang (US006675385B1).

Regarding claim 1, Wang discloses a transmitting apparatus for transmitting contents data and corresponding meta data over a network (e.g. MPEG digital television network) (See Fig. 1; column 2 line 29).

The system includes: contents storing means (e.g. local database) for storing contents data (e.g. EPG data) and corresponding meta data (wherein the EPG data includes meta data, e.g. title, channel information, start time, and stop time of various programs) in a broadcast format (e.g. the format it is received in) (See Fig. 4; column 2 lines 55-61 and column 3 lines 55-61);

meta data schema storing means (e.g. the system generates HTML web pages of the EPG and stores the pages) for storing a meta data schema (e.g. the HTML) defining a data structure for the meta data that is compatible with a network transmission format (e.g. the HTML web pages of the EPG are compatible with the MPEG-2 transport stream) (See Fig. 4; column 3 line 62 – column 4 line 8, column 5 lines 5-10).

In order to generate the HTML web pages of the EPG, the system further includes: contents segmenting means (e.g. the EPG manager of the system generates sets of Web pages based on the EPG data) for segmenting the contents data (e.g. EPG data) and generating segmentation information (e.g. assigning each Web page a universal resource locator (URL)) of the contents data (See column 3 lines 62-66);

meta data combining means (e.g. the EPG manager combines the meta data and the URLs into the web pages and then are stored) for combining the corresponding meta data and segmentation information (e.g. URLs) for the segmented contents data

(e.g. the HTML web pages) (See Fig. 4; column 3 line 62 – column 4 line 8, column 5 lines 5-10).

In order to transmit the HTML web pages of the EPG over the network, the system also includes: contents converting means (e.g. the HTML web pages of the EPG are encoded into a MPEG-2 transport stream by the MPEG-2 encoder) for converting the segmented contents data (e.g. the HTML web pages of the EPG) into the network transmission format (e.g. MPEG-2 format) (See Fig. 1; column 1 lines 24-35, column 3 lines 55-61, and column 4 lines 9-15);

meta data converting means (e.g. the MPEG-2 encoder) for converting the meta data (e.g. from the EPG data) and segmentation data (e.g. URLs) from the broadcast format (e.g. the format the EPG data is received in) into the network transmission format (e.g. MPEG-2 format) (See Fig. 1; column 1 lines 24-35, column 3 lines 55-61, and column 4 lines 9-15);

meta data schema converting means (e.g. the MPEG-2 encoder) for converting the meta data schema (e.g. the HTML) into the network transmission format (e.g. MPEG-2 format) (See Fig. 1; column 1 lines 24-35, column 3 lines 55-61, and column 4 lines 9-15);

transmitting means for transmitting the converted meta data and segmentation information, the converter meta data schema, and the converted contents data in the network transmission format (e.g. MPEG-2 format) over the network (See Figs. 1-3).

Claim 2 contains the limitations of claim 1 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to that claim. Furthermore, the URLs also serve as the “identifier

of the segmentation information", wherein it identifies all the web pages of the EPG that includes the "meta data". The URLs are assigned and stored with the web pages or "segmentation information storing means" as discussed above. The URLs are also encoded or "converted" or "segmentation information converting means" and transmitted down to the user over the network.

Regarding claim 3, the HTML web pages of the EPG are encoded or "converted" into an MPEG-2 transport stream or "represents the meta data schema in an MPEG system section format" (See column 4 lines 9-23).

Regarding claim 4, each MPEG packet that contains the HTML web pages of the EPG, that includes the "meta data" and URLs, is assigned a program information descriptor (PID) or is in "descriptor format" (See column 4 lines 9-30).

Regarding claim 5, Wang also discloses a system for receiving HTML web pages of the EPG in an MPEG digital TV system or "network". The set top box (STB) receives the HTML web pages of the EPG or "segmented contents data" that includes the "meta data" and URLs or "segmentation information", wherein the web pages are defined by HTML or "meta data schema" over the network (See Fig. 1). The HTML web pages are stored in memory or "meta data schema storing means" or "meta data storing means" (See Fig. 1 and 3; column 4 lines 41-50). The web browser of the STB performs the functions of the "meta data analyzing means" where it parses, layouts, and renders the HTML web pages of the EPG and the "contents reproduction controlling means" where it displays the HTML web pages of the EPG that includes the URL links to other web pages and the "meta data" as defined by the HTML (See Figs. 3-9). Furthermore, the

meta data includes electronic program guide data converted for transmission from a broadcast transmission format (e.g. the format the EPG data is received in) into the network transmission format (e.g. MPEG-2 format) (See Fig. 1; column 1 lines 24-35, column 3 lines 55-61, and column 4 lines 9-15).

Claim 6 contains the limitations of claims 1 and 5 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims. Furthermore, the URLs also serve as the “identifier” to the “segmentation information”, wherein the URLs identifies and links all the web pages of the EPG that includes the “meta data”. The URLs are assigned and stored with the web pages or “segmentation information storing means” as discussed above in claim 5. The web browser of the STB performs the functions of the “meta data analyzing means” where it parses, layouts, and renders the HTML web pages of the EPG according to the HTML, where it places the “meta data” in the corresponding location on the web pages as well as placing the URL links to other web pages in the corresponding location on the web pages or “analyzing the stored meta data on the basis of the meta data schema, and the stored segmentation information on the basis of the identifier” (See Fig. 3-9).

Claim 7 contains the limitations of claims 2 and 3 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

Claim 8 contains the limitations of claims 2 and 4 and is analyzed as previously discussed with respect to those claims.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 09 March 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues with respect to claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 that Wang does not disclose transmitting contents data and corresponding meta data over a network. However, reading the claims in the broadest sense, Wang does meet the limitations of the claims. Wang discloses that contents data (e.g. EPG data) and the corresponding meta data is transmitted over a MPEG-2 digital television network (See Fig. 1; column 2 line 29).

Applicant further argues with respect to claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 that the MPEG-2 format disclosed by Wang is a broadcast format. However, reading the claims in the broadest sense, MPEG-2 format is considered a network transmission format wherein the MPEG-2 format is used to transmit the HTML web pages of the EPG over the MPEG-2 digital television network (See Fig. 1; column 2 lines 27).


Applicant is reminded that although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph G. Ustaris whose telephone number is 571-272-7383. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-5PM; Alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher S. Kelley can be reached on 571-272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


JGU
October 26, 2006


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